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| Date | August 16, 2005 | Total Pages: 8 |
| To: | Patent & Trademark Office | |
| Attn.: | Examiner Ling | |
| Facsimile No.: | 571/272-1546 273-8300 | |
| From: | Ann M. Skerry, Esq. | |
| Re: | Serial No.: 10/761,559 Our Ref.: FLCZ 2 00383 | |

COMMENTS

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Niknafs, et al.
FOR : CERAMIC PACKING ELEMENT FOR
MASS TRANSFER APPLICATIONS
SERIAL NO. : 10/761,559
FILED : January 21, 2004
ART UNIT : 1775
CONFIRMATION NO. : 2859
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : FLCZ 2 00383 (H-4357)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP - AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicant(s) submit(s) the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicant(s) is (are) aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed to be an admission that any information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" or is considered to be material to patentability for this invention.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office OG Notice dated 12 October 2004 published a final rule revising 37 C.F.R. 1.98 dealing with the content of Disclosure Statements. Paragraph (a)(2) was revised to read in part, "A legible copy of: (i) Each foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed, other than U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications unless required by the Office." Therefore, Applicants have not enclosed copies of the cited U.S. patents and published patent applications with this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Consideration of the appropriate paragraph indicated below is respectfully requested:

☒ BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION: Under § 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be handled as set forth below.

Any payment due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized to be charged to a Credit Card. The appropriate form PTO-2038 is enclosed for this purpose. If the Credit Card is unable to be charged, please charge any and all fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN, MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



Dated: August 16, 2005

Ann M. Skerry, Esq, Reg. No. 45,655
1100 Superior Avenue, Seventh Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114-2579
Telephone: 216/861-5582

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying document(s) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Date: August 16, 2005

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Signature



Printed Name: Trena Stewart

| Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | COMPLETE IF KNOWN | | | | |
|---|-------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | Application Number | 10/761,559 | | | |
| | | Filing Date | January 21, 2004 | | | |
| | | First Named Inventor | Niknafs, et al. | | | |
| | | Art Unit | 1775 | | | |
| | | Examiner Name | Unknown | | | |
| Sheet 1 of 1 | | Attorney Docket No. | FLCZ 2 00383 US (H-4357) | | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Document No. Number-Kind Code <small>(if known)</small> | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | |
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| | AM | EP 1 338 326 | January 30, 2005 | | | |
| | AN | WO 2005/021152 | March 10, 2005 | | | |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | | | | T |
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